



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN SENTENCED TO 26 YEARS FOR ROLE IN ARMED BANK ROBBERY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for his role in an attempted armed bank robbery.

James E. Bowman, 39, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to 26 years and seven months in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 23, 2004, **James Bowman** and his brother **Jimmy J. Bowman**, 41, also of Kansas City, were found guilty by a federal jury of conspiracy, attempted armed bank robbery, use of a firearm during a crime of violence and being felons in possession of a firearm. On Sept. 8, 2004, a third co-defendant, **Daniel D. Salazar**, 20, also of Kansas City, pleaded guilty to conspiracy and attempted armed bank robbery.

At the time of the attempted bank robbery, the **Bowmans** and **Salazar** confronted an employee who routinely cleans the Bank of America building at 8550 Holmes in Kansas City, as he arrived for work at 5:40 a.m., on May 12, 2004. **Jimmy Bowman**, who was carrying a handgun, forced the employee to open the door as **James Bowman** and **Salazar** approached. The robbers repeatedly ordered the employee to open the bank's vaults and teller drawers, Graves said, but the employee told them he did not have access to any of the bank's money. When the robbers realized the employee was not able to provide them with any money, they left the bank.

Salazar later contacted the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department on May 13, 2004, and offered to provide information about the attempted robbery of the bank. Local television and newspaper media had advertised a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the incident and related unsolved bank robberies. **Salazar** hoped to claim that reward by providing information about his co-conspirators.

In the course of their investigation, Graves said, law enforcement officers learned that **Salazar** was one of the three men who participated in the attempted bank robbery.

On January 26, 2004, **Salazar** was sentenced to two years and eight months in federal prison without parole for his role in the conspiracy and attempted armed bank robbery.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow